

From the Middle

March 14, 2008

Quotes of the Week:

“It is never too late to give up our prejudices.” -Henry David Thoreau

“He who truly knows has no occasion to shout.” -Leonardo da Vinci

Announcements:

- *The **Light bulb sale** is still going on! Buy compact fluorescent bulbs from any middle schooler to **save energy**, which saves \$
- * Pick up your light bulbs at the Energy Fair on Saturday, **April 12** at the school
- * If you don't make it to the fair, you can get your bulbs at school after April 12 from the student who sold it to you

Star Spotting

by Amadea Nicoliet Coviesari

On Wednesday, Amanda Coviello and Amadea Cesari, former writers for *From The Middle*, were spotted wandering the halls of Chelsea Public School. When confronted by adoring fans who begged for their autographs they simply put on their shades in unison and said they had a party to get to. We received an anonymous tip that they graced us with their presence simply to bring fame to the people. We KNOW!!!! they will be MISSED A LOT!!! but hopefully they will return again.

An Interview with Mr. Popoli:

Nikki Duval

I wanted to learn more about Mr. Popoli because he sounds like a cool guy and he teaches my little sister, Shelby. What I discovered was that Mr. Popoli is a good guy (my instincts were right)!

Nikki: Where did you grow up?

Mr. Popoli: Western Massachusetts.

N: What is your favorite sport and why?

P: Frisbee, because I fell in love with it when I lived in Montana and I can play it with my wife. It's a spectacular sport.

N: Why did you want to be a 2nd grade teacher?

P: I just got lucky teaching 2nd grade. It was something that I was put on the Earth to do.

N: What are the 2nd graders learning in class?

P: Cultures, working together, understanding differences between people and each other.

N: If you were an animal what would you be and why?

P: A turtle because I love turtles and I like to take it easy.

N: What's your favorite music?

P: Cuban music because it's a type of music I can dance to.

N: If you had a super power what would it be?

P: To make the world a better place and create peace worldwide.

N: Why do some people call you Mr. Popular?

P: I think it's a funny nick name. Ms. Tyler started it just to give me a hard time. I blame it all on her.

Thank you, Mr. Popoli, for your time.

The Flood

By Andrea Neville

There I was doing my little sister's new puzzle, when I heard Troy, my step dad's pager go off. I heard it say there has been a flood. So, Troy ran out of the house, sped down the driveway, and down the road. The next day, I was downtown and I saw a red building knocked down. Pieces of it were down by the road, and up by Wellspring you can see the roof to this building. The building used to be on the other side of the brook; when the brook flooded, it carried the building over and broke it into pieces. Ice chunks were everywhere and picnic tables were split into pieces. By the bridge where it started (by the old pizza place), there are two apartments in that building: one upstairs, and one downstairs. The walkway for the downstairs apartment was washed away, so they had to go through the upstairs apartment to get the man out from his apartment. At another house, across from the jail, the pressure from the water was so intense that it blew out the windows and flooded the house.

There have been other floods in the past here in Chelsea. Most of you probably remember that there was one last year. Many people in town pulled together to help out those affected by the flood. But, did you know that 1927, there was a major flood that devastated the town worse than any natural disaster before or since? I took this information from the book, *Chelsea, Vermont 1784-1984* which was compiled by a committee from the Chelsea Historical Society, Inc.: "The fall of 1927 had been extremely wet, and particularly heavy rain fell on November third and fourth. The resulting deluge became the infamous "flood of '27." It may have been the most severe flood in Vermont history, certainly the most severe since the first weather was recorded in 1883." (p.220) Another flood came to town in 1936, but the damage was nowhere near as bad as the 1927 flood.



Photo taken from the Chelsea town website

The weather affects us all and unfortunately, we have no control over weather. Floods continue to hurt the town by crushing buildings, washing away bridges, and ruining houses. But when you think about it, it's nowhere near as bad as living in a place like Florida where often hurricanes hit and totally destroy towns and lives. One good thing about disasters like floods is that they bring us closer together. If someone is kicked out of their house because of a flood, other family or friends take them in or help out in some way. Like when last year's flood hit, a bunch of people helped fellow residents like Marty Gratz by shoveling ice and doing other things to help out. Do you see what I mean about bringing us together? I am glad I live in a small town because I know that there would be people who would help us if disaster hit my family. Just like we would help them.

This newsletter was created by: Andrea Neville & Nikki Duval